procure Mustard seeds in preference to a Cooperative Society deviating from its established policy, in view of the fact that the firm offered better terms to the NCCF. While the private firm charged 15 paise per Rs. 100 as its commission, the Local Cooperative Marketing Society proposed to charge 50 paise as commission. The NCCF had appointed the firm on an experimental basis.

(b) and (c) The firm is operating as a foodgrain merchant cum commission agent having good reputation in handling grocery trade. NCCF had appointed the firm on an experimental basis. NCCF has earned a profit in this operation.

Release of Bank Guarantee by the N.C.C.F. to Vikas Enterprises

4140. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCCF released any Bank Guarantee to M|s. Vikas Enterprises, Delhi in 1979 in violation of their contract and against the Arbitration Award which resulted in non-recovery of large amount from the Party by the NCCF;

(b) whether any stocks processed by Vikas Enterprises were sold to a fictitious party in 1979, which resulted in non-recovery of large amount from the Party by the NCCF;

(c) whether the NCCF illegally sold some Tea Chests to Primary Society in Delhi without receiving the payment their against;

(d) if so, the details thereof giving amount of loss in each case;

(e) whether it is a fact that one of the involved officers had recently been promoted with retrospective effect instead of taking disciplinary action against him; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor as also for not suspending and taking disciplinary action against the officers involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Bank Guarantee provided by M/s. Vikas Enterprises, who were milling pulses of National Cooperative Consumers Federation, expired on 30-4-1979 and though the stock of NCCF was lying with the miller, the guarantee was not extended by the then Branch Manager, Delhi, who is now under suspension and facing a departmental enquiry. M/s. Vikas Enterprises failed to return the processed stock, on the plea of its being damaged by floods. According to the terms of agreement, the matter was referred to the Arbitrator who awarded on 18-1-1983 an amount of Rs. 1,39,770 to be paid by the firm to the NCCF. M/s. Vikas Enterprises have filed an objection against the Award in the Delhi High Court where the case is still pending.

(b) The stocks processed by Vikas Enterprises were sold to a party on the basis of highest rates obtained through quotations. The amount of short realisation from M|s Vikas Enterprises was included in the total amount of given by the Arbitrator.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Foreign assistance for irrigation schemes

4141. SHRI KESHAVPRASAD SHUKLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how many major, medium and minor irrigation schemes are in progress under foreign assistance programme and what is their balance cost as on 1st April, 1987;

(b) whether the State of Madhya Pradesh is able to provide enough funds to them from its available allocation so as to complete them within the time slice of the programme;

(c) whether Central Government proposed to provide extra funds for their completion within the time slice of the